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MINISTRY OF HEALTH

BOROUGH OF FLEETWOOD

ANNUAL REPORT

1942.

by

J. Colgan M.D.,B.Ch., B.A.O.
Medica l Officer of Health.

Cat'd. 13/1

MEMBERS OF THE SANITARY COMMITTEE.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR:

Alderman W.H. Thompson, J.P.

CHAIRMAN:

Councillor W. Minns.

ALDERMEN:

T. Clegg
W.E. Simpson
C. Saer, T.D., C.C.
P. McNicholas, M.B.E.
H. Blackburn.

COUNCILLORS:

Mrs. J. Atherton
W.F. Betney
C.H. Dent
[illegible]. Drummond
W.A. Eccles
H. Jones
R. Knowles
E.A. Lawrence
C.F. Lofthouse.
T.F. Nisbett
T. Roberts
J. Shaw
A.L. Schofield, B.Sc.
J. Sutcliffe
W. Ward
A. Wilkinson
F. Wilkinson

TOWN CLERK:

Alan Smith.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH & PORT HEALTH OFFICER:

J. Colgan, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR (BOROUGH & PORT) and CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

G. Pilkington, F.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C., (retired 31st March 1942)

P.J. Fisher, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., (appointed 11th July 1942)

ADDITIONAL INSPECTORS:

A.H. Johnstone, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (left for new appointment October 1942)

E. Whitehead, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
H. Bland C.R.San.I.
H. Waddicar M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Commenced duties 14th December 1942)

F. Hesketh C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., (away on Military Service)

CLERK:

J.E. Whiting.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,
CORSE ROAD, FLEETWOOD.
30th May, 1943.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
The Borough of Fleetwood.

Gentlemen and Madam,

I have pleasure to present my twentieth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District during the year ending 31st December 1942, combined with the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector. In accordance with Circular 2773 dated 10th March 1943 of the Ministry of Health, this will take the form of an interim report, to be followed by a complete report, after the termination of the war, dealing with the period from the beginning of 1939.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Although official figures have not been supplied by the Registrar General, it is believed that a further improvement occurred in the figures for infant deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There was no outbreak of Infectious Disease during the year. The number of cases of Diphtheria showed a decrease on the previous year.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH REGULATIONS, 1939 (Provisional).

Under these regulations, Measles and Whooping Cough became compulsorily notifiable from the 23rd October, 1939. The number of cases of Measles showed a decrease, but the number of cases of Whooping Cough increased slightly.

MILK SUPPLY.

Inspections and sampling were maintained through out the year, and action taken where found to be necessary.

WATER SAMPLING.

Samples of Water (tap) were taken regularly throughout the year, and copies of monthly reports were received on Fylde Water examined by the Water Board. In all cases both bacteriological and chemical were satisfactory.

SANITARY CONDITIONS

Inspections of various premises during the year totalled 5,396 and 333 nuisances and defects were remedied.

HOUSING.

Twenty-one houses were inspected under the Housing Acts, and all were put in good repair, no action was necessary with regard to overcrowding, apart from isolated cases, which were dealt with as they arose.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Since June,1939, the furniture of all New Tenants to Corporation Houses has been disinfected with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas in a special gas-proof van, the work being carried out by Sanitary Staff specially trained in this work. Verminous houses are sprayed with a proprietary insecticide(Lethane), which has proved satisfactory in light infestation, but in severe cases,Hydrogen Cyanide Gas is used, a firm of contractors being employed.

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS.

The salvaging of waste materials was continued during the year and was increased very considerably. The necessary monthly returns have been forwarded to the Ministry.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The Public Abattoir was taken over by the Ministry of Food at the commencement of the war, as a centre for the Borough of Fleetwood and the Urban Districts of Thornton-Cleveleys and Preesall. All animals slaughtered are inspected by the Officers of this Authority.

In March 1942, centralisation took place at Blackpool, and the Public Abattoir at Fleetwood was closed down.

Under the Lancashire County Council(General Powers) Act,1938, it is necessary for all hawkers of food and their premises and other premises where food is prepared to be registered from the 1st October,1939.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J. COLGAN

Medical Officer of Health.